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Boston University

News & Notes

Boston University School of Medicine



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FIRST NATIONAL BANK AWARDS GRANT TO BUSM FOR RESEARCH SPACE

The First National Bank of Boston Charitable Foundation has awarded the School a three-year \$60,000 grant to help fund the development of research space, Dean Sandson has announced.

"The School of Medicine has just completed a decade of remarkable growth, and this generous gift will help us build upon that growth," Sandson said. "During this period, the size of the student body has doubled from 280 to 572, the number of faculty members has correspondingly increased from 500 to 1,200, and sponsored research support has risen from \$6 million to more than \$25 million per year.

"While the dollar amount of sponsored research has quadrupled in the last decade," Sandson continued, "the available laboratory space has not grown at all. Research space per person is now about 112 square feet, roughly one-half of the National Institutes of Health's recommended 200 to 250 square feet of laboratory space per researcher," he said.

Additional research space is especially needed for the Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Research Center, the Gerontology Center, the Department of Biochemistry, and for such other programs as primary care, nutrition and international health.

The First National Bank of Boston Charitable Foundation is a charitable trust funded by the First National Bank and its subsidiaries.

UH, MGH RECEIVE FUNDS FOR 'CENTER WITHOUT WALLS' IN HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

University Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital have been awarded a federal grant of nearly \$4 million to create a unique "Center Without Walls" for the study and treatment of Huntington's disease, according to Robert G.

Feldman, M.D., chairman of the Department of Neurology and chief of neurology at UH, and Joseph B. Martin, M.D., chief of neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Martin will be principal investigator and program director under the five-year grant, which was awarded by the National Institutes of Health. Feldman will be associate program director.

The multi-institutional program will draw upon research and patient-care expertise at hospitals associated with all four medical schools in Massachusetts as well as the Veterans Administration hospitals. BUSM, as well as Harvard, Tufts and the University of Massachusetts medical schools, will be involved in the project.

The "Center Without Walls" will work closely with the Massachusetts Chapter of the Committee to Combat Huntington's Disease, a private organization that is based at UH and is active in both patient and public education programs about the inherited illness.

For more information about the "Center Without Walls," contact Richard Myers, M.D., at x5025 (247-5025), or the Committee to Combat Huntington's Disease at x5049 (247-5049).

LEAH LOWENSTEIN ELECTED
TO INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

Associate Dean Leah M. Lowenstein, M.D., D. Phil., has been elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. Members are elected on the

basis of their contributions to health and medicine, or to such related fields as the social and behavioral sciences, law, administration, and engineering. Last year, Medical Center Director Richard H. Egdahl, M.D., was elected to the Institute, as was Judith P. Swazey, Ph.D., a professor of socio-medical sciences and community medicine, who is on a one-year sabbatical to serve as executive director of Medicine in the Public Interest. Joel J. Alpert, M.D., chairman of the Department of Pediatrics and a professor of socio-medical sciences and community medicine, and Sol Levine, Ph.D., a professor of socio-medical sciences and community medicine, are also members.

RYAN TO CONDUCT STUDY
OF HEART FAILURE CAUSES

Thomas J. Ryan, M.D., a professor of medicine and head of the Section of Cardiology at University Hospital, recently was awarded a \$177,109 grant by the National Heart, Lung

and Blood Institute for a three-year study entitled "The Cardiovascular Physiology of Angiotensin Blockade." Ryan will investigate a new family of drugs known as converting enzyme inhibitors, which may prove to be beneficial to patients suffering from congestive heart failure.

Ryan and his colleagues will focus on one agent, captopril, which blocks the body's production of angiotensin, an extremely potent substance that constricts small blood vessels. It is believed that relief from excessive blood vessel constriction, a symptom found in patients with heart failure, will increase blood flow to vital organs.

CHARLES TIFFT TO HEAD
PHYSICIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM

Charles P. Tift, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine, has been named principal investigator in a three-year contract of approximately \$105,000 awarded to the School by

the Massachusetts State Department of Public Health to develop an education program in hypertension and cardiovascular risk for practicing physicians in the state. Patrick O'Reilly, M.P.H., administrator for the Cardiovascular Institute, will work with Tift on the program, which will involve physicians associated with the Brockton Hospital and will emphasize innovative approaches to continuing medical education.

'STRESS AND THE WORKPLACE'
TO BE CONFERENCE TOPIC

Several BUSM faculty members are scheduled to participate in the second annual New England Occupational Health Conference, which will focus on "Stress and the Workplace,"

to be held at the Medical Center Friday, Oct. 10. Aram V. Chobanian, M.D., a professor of medicine and director of the Cardiovascular Institute, will moderate discussions on "Stress and Disease," and Sanford I. Cohen, M.D., chairman of the Division of Psychiatry, will moderate a session on "Emotional Stress." Topics to be discussed include "Headaches and Stress," "Coping with Stress," "Stress and the Law," and "Current Status of Noise as a Stress Factor."

Leon J. Warshaw, M.D., author of Managing Stress, and Boston attorney Neil Chayet, commentator for CBS Radio, will also take part in the conference, as will Dean Sandson and faculty members from Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health.

Registration must be completed by Sept. 26. For more information, contact Lois Wysocki of University Hospital's Occupational Health Services Center, x5352 (247-5352).

KAREN AMATO TO RECEIVE
CANCER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Karen Amato, BUSM II, is one of three medical students to be selected by the Massachusetts Division of the American Cancer Society to receive a Betty Lea Stone Research Fellowship.

The award, established last year, is offered to first-year medical students at the

four Massachusetts medical schools. Students are required to write a proposal for their research projects, which must involve some aspect of cancer in humans. The fellowships provide students with an opportunity to conduct these projects under the guidance of experienced cancer investigators.

Amato has been working in the laboratory of Robert J. Eckner, Ph.D., an assistant professor of microbiology and pathology. She is studying leukemia virus in mice and is trying to develop a cell line with a certain kind of virus that serves as a catalyst for leukemia virus.

ORGANIZATION TO HOLD
ANNUAL MEETING AT BUSM

The Society for Complex Carbohydrates will hold its annual meeting Sept. 25 to 27 in the Keefer Auditorium at the School of Medicine, according to Karl Schmid, Ph.D., a professor of biochemistry at the School and president of the organization.

More than 50 papers dealing with basic and clinical research of glycoproteins, glycolipids and other complex carbohydrates are scheduled to be presented. A poster display also will be included.

For more information about the conference or the organization, contact Schmid at x6111 (247-6111).

DENNY-BROWN SUBJECT
OF WATERHOUSE PROGRAM

A film on Derek Denny-Brown, M.D., a clinical neurologist, will be featured at the Benjamin Waterhouse Medical History Society's "Leaders in American Medicine" program on Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 4:30 p.m. at the Countway Library of Harvard Medical School. Discussants will include Denny-Brown, the James Jackson Putnam professor emeritus of neurology at Harvard Medical School; Joseph M. Foley, M.D., a professor of neurology at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, and William B. Castle, M.D., the Francis W. Peabody faculty professor emeritus of medicine at Harvard Medical School. The program will be preceded by refreshments at 4 p.m.

ACCLAIMED ROBINSON FILM
TO BE RERUN THIS MONTH

"Joan Robinson: One Woman's Story," a television documentary that provoked considerable controversy and drew a large national audience when it was aired in January, will be rerun on Boston's WGBH-TV, Channel 2, Saturday, Sept. 20, at 9 p.m. The film was shown on other Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) stations nationally Monday, Sept. 15, at 8 p.m.

The 2½ hour film, which chronicles the 22-month struggle of a University Hospital patient against terminal cancer, was viewed by some eight million Americans in its January broadcast, earning ratings that were among the highest ever received by a PBS program. "One Woman's Story" was run on Japanese television in May and drew "an overwhelming response," according to a spokesperson for the Nippon Television Network.

Robinson was a patient of Peter J. Mozden, M.D., an associate professor of surgery and an assistant clinical professor of gynecology, as well as chief of UH's Section of Surgical Oncology.

Time-Life Video has purchased the American rights to "One Woman's Story" from the producer, Red Cloud Productions, Inc., of Cambridge. Time-Life has created a series of six programs entitled "Coping With Serious Illness," to be hosted by actress Meryl Streep.

NEW GERIATRIC SERVICE
ESTABLISHED AT UH

A Geriatric Consultative Service has been instituted at University Hospital to respond to the special needs of patients over 60 years old, according to R. Knight Steel, M.D., an associate professor of medicine and chief of geriatrics at UH. "This special service

has been developed because the presentation of disease may be unique in the elderly individual, and diagnosis and treatment is often complicated by the multiplicity of physical and social ills that the elderly individual faces," Steel said. He is also chief of the geriatrics section of the School's Department of Medicine and director of the University's Gerontology Center.

The consultation service is staffed by a geriatric nurse practitioner/clinical specialist, an internist with special interest in geriatrics, a senior medical resident and a geriatric fellow. Representatives from other disciplines are consulted when necessary to insure proper care of individual patients. For more information about the new service, contact Steel or Antoinette Hays, R.N., M.S., at x5644 (247-5644).

ORTHOPEDICS AND RADIOLOGY
SUBJECTS OF CME COURSES

Isadore G. Yablon, M.D., a professor of orthopedics and fracture surgery, is course director for "Disorders of the Knee: Diagnosis and Management," a continuing medical education (CME) course to be held Sept. 26 at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston. Seven other BUSM faculty members will participate in the program, which will include discussions on the surgical treatment of septic arthritis, synovectomy of the knee and patellar instability. To register, or for more information, contact Mary Hopkins at x5602 (247-5602).

"Pediatric Radiology in the General Hospital" will be the topic of a continuing medical education course to be held Oct. 7 to 10 at Dunfey Hyannis Resort. Eight members of the School's faculty, as well as several guest faculty, will discuss such subjects as CT scanning in the infant chest, asthma in children, and congenital malformations of the urinary tract. To register, or for further information, contact Donna Marcy at x5603 (247-5603).

FACULTY MEMBERS CONDUCT
WORKSHOPS IN EUROPE

Five members of the School's Division of Psychiatry recently conducted workshops for U.S. armed forces psychiatrists stationed in Europe. The program was offered in conjunction with the University's Office of International Continuing Education.

The first workshop, "Crisis Intervention and Brief Psychotherapy," was held in Munich. Workshop leaders were James Mann, M.D., a professor of psychiatry, Albert Feingold, M.D., an assistant professor of psychiatry, and Lawrence Miller, M.D., a clinical instructor in psychiatry. Lyle Miller, Ph.D., chairman of the Department of Biobehavioral Sciences, and Melvin Rosenthal, Ph.D., a professor of psychiatry (psychology), presented a workshop in Heidelberg entitled "Psychological Evaluation: Methods and Interpretations."

FACULTY TO SERVE
ON ADVISORY BOARD

Four BUSM faculty members recently were appointed to serve on the Registry of Motor Vehicles Medical Advisory Board. The new board chairman is Nicolas J. Fiumara, M.D., M.P.H., a clinical professor of dermatology at BUSM and director of communicable and venereal disease programs for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Robert G. Feldman, M.D., chairman of the Department of Neurology, was appointed a board member. Murray Freed, M.D., chairman of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, and James W. Rosenberg, M.D., a clinical assistant in ophthalmology, were appointed as board consultants.

ROBERT BARATZ PRESENTS
PAPERS, SEMINARS IN JAPAN

Robert S. Baratz, D.D.S., Ph.D., an assistant professor of anatomy, recently presented a series of papers and seminars in Japan. Baratz, who is also an assistant research professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, presented two scientific papers at the 58th General Session of the International Association for Dental Research in Osaka. The first paper, co-authored with Neil B. Ruderman, M.D., a professor of medicine and physiology, was entitled "Diabetic Microangiopathy in Marginal Gingiva." The second paper, entitled "Surface Features of Cell Desquamation from Oral Mucosa," was co-authored with Benetta Levine, BUSM III.

Baratz also presented seminars on "Palate Formation in Embryogenesis-Relation to Cleft Palate" at Matsumoto Dental College and the University of Osaka Prefecture. He was a guest for laboratory talks at Tokyo Medical and Dental University and Kyushu Faculty of Dentistry in Fukuoka.

TRAUMA COURSE ATTRACTS
PARTICIPANTS FROM 21 STATES

Twelve BUSM faculty members recently participated in the Second Annual Trauma and Emergency Radiology Course, held at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Cambridge. Allan Naimark, M.D., an associate professor of radiology, and Judith Kossoff, M.D., an assistant professor of radiology, were the course directors for the continuing medical education program. Participants from 21 states discussed such topics as acute thoracic problems, emergency pediatric radiology and emergency problems in the axial skeleton.

BRICOUT, PROUT PARTICIPATE
IN CANCER COURSE AT BCH

Philippe B. Bricout, M.D., an assistant professor of radiology, and Marianne N. Prout, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine and of socio-medical sciences and community medicine, recently completed an eight-week nursing oncology review course, entitled "Current Trends in Cancer Care," held at Boston City Hospital (BCH). The series, which was co-sponsored by the American Cancer Society, featured discussions in such topics as radiation therapy, the nursing implications of cancer and lung cancer.

MIT OFFERS COURSE
TO BUSM STUDENTS

BUSM students are invited to take part in an interdisciplinary course offered at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) entitled "Technology, Law and the Working Environment." The course, which began Sept. 10, focuses on health and safety problems in the workplace and the laws related to those problems. The class will meet from 7 to 10 p.m. every Monday during the fall semester in building E51-168 at the corner of Amherst and Wadsworth streets in Cambridge. Nicholas A. Ashford, Ph.D., J.D., an associate professor of technology and policy at MIT, is the instructor. For more information, call 253-1655.

BU FITNESS CENTER OPENS
AT CHARLES RIVER CAMPUS

In conjunction with the University's Department of Health Sciences, the School of Medicine has established a physical fitness evaluation and reconditioning center in the Human Bioenergetics Laboratory at 36 Cummington Street on the Charles River campus. Included in the center's testing procedures is a medical screening by a cardiologist, a treadmill test and a computerized dietary evaluation. The center is open to all University faculty, staff and alumni. For more information, call 353-2717. ✓

ED. MEDIA STAFF TAKES PART
IN BPA ANNUAL MEETING

Several members of the BUMC Educational Media Support Center staff participated in the 50th annual meeting of the Biological Photographic Association (BPA), held July 16 to 19 at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel. Jerome Glickman, director of the center, was general chairman of the meeting. Other staff members who took part in the meeting were: Terry Field, Diane Glickman, James Grodecki, Fred DeLorey, Mark Lefkowitz, Marcy Williams, Alice Vickery, Terry Buzzee, Polly Hughes, Jebby Debasitis, Helen Brems and Joette Brems. The BPA is an international association of professional photographers in the health and natural sciences.

CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN
ON DOB ELEVATOR, 11TH FLOOR

Construction will begin early this fall in the Doctors Office Building (DOB) for the addition of a third elevator and the completion of the eleventh floor, according to Arthur O. Friedman, building manager. The eleventh floor will house programs of the Division of Medicine and the Medical Center's administrative offices. Construction of a third elevator is expected to relieve long waits for the elevators and overcrowding. The project is expected to take one year, Friedman said.

BRIEFLY NOTED

Murray Freed '52, a professor of medicine and chairman of

the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, recently was elected to the University's National Alumni Council by the board of directors of the General Alumni Association. The council consists of more than 600 distinguished University alumni from 42 states and eight foreign countries....Robert Feldman, M.D., chairman of the Department of Neurology, was elected to a four-year term on the Epilepsy Foundation of America's professional advisory board during the board's annual meeting, recently held in New Orleans....Lyle Miller, Ph.D., chairman of the Department of Biobehavioral Sciences, has been elected president of the Massachusetts Biofeedback Society for the 1980-81 term....Thomas J. Ryan, M.D., a professor of medicine, recently was elected to serve a three-year term as governor for Massachusetts for the American College of Cardiology....Philip Kramer, M.D., a professor of medicine, and Raymond Koff, M.D., an associate professor of medicine, participated in a National Institutes of Health conference entitled "Endoscopy: What is its Role in Upper Gastrointestinal Bleeding?" held Aug. 20 to 22 in Washington, D.C.....Hugues J.-P. Ryser, M.D., Ph.D., a professor of pathology and pharmacology, was recently interviewed in a special edition of Cancer Currents, a newsletter of the Massachusetts Division of the American Cancer Society. The topic of the interview was "Where We Are In Cancer Research Today"....Joan M. Luthy, a research assistant in the Department of Surgery, wrote an article, entitled "30, 45, 60? Give Yourself a Brain-Lift--Go Back to the Classroom," which was featured in The Magazine section of the Aug. 17 issue of the Boston Herald American. The article focused on older Americans who choose to return to school, often because they wish to change careers.

NEWS & NOTES is a regular monthly publication of the Office of Informational Services. If you have news of interest to the School of Medicine community, call editor Susan Saperstein, x5606 (247-5606), or write to her at the Office of Informational Services, P-600 (720 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02118). Marge Hurlbut Dwyer is managing editor.

News & Notes

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